



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.	
10/797,448	03/10/2004	Joseph Bliss	SUP-00001	4424	
7590	02/10/2006		EXAMINER		
Warn, Burgess & Hoffmann, P.C. P.O. Box 70098 Rochester Hills, MI 48307		GOODMAN, CHARLES			
		ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER	
		3724			

DATE MAILED: 02/10/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/797,448	BLISS, JOSEPH	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Charles Goodman	3724	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 November 2005.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-18 and 20-25 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) 19 is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. The Amendment filed on November 28, 2005 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1, 2, 7, 9, 10, 12-16 and 20-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Quaas (US 4,151,736).

Quaas discloses a quick change apparatus for heavy die sets comprising all the elements claimed including, inter alia, a lower adaptor (e.g. 12); an upper adaptor (e.g. 10); a tool package (e.g. 16, 18); a lower shoe detail (e.g. at 14); and an upper shoe detail (e.g. not the cut-away portions of a surrounding structure at the corners near references 10 and 134 in Fig. 1). Figs. 1-6.

4. Claims 1-5, 7-10, 16-18, 20, and 22-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Ryser et al (US 4,143,574).

Riser et al discloses a stamping device comprising all the elements claimed including, inter alia, a lower adaptor (e.g. 53); an upper adaptor (e.g. 34); a tool package (e.g. 43, 63); a lower shoe detail (e.g. 57, 22); an upper shoe detail (e.g. 21, 31); and a lower binder holder (e.g. 57). Figs. 1-9.

Regarding claim 17, the chute(s) and collection pan is readable on the bottom portion of the lower die aperture (e.g. note the widened space between pin 64 and 63' in Fig. 8).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ryser et al (US 4,143,574).

Ryser et al discloses the invention substantially as claimed except for one or more nitro cylinders. However, due to the fact that the lower die shoe already includes a means for holding the binder (e.g. at 55), it is the Examiner's position that it would have been obvious to the ordinary artisan at the time of the instant invention to provide the device of Ryser et al with nitro cylinders as an equivalent holding/fastening means known in the press art to hold the binder in place, since a threaded fastener and cylinders are deemed to be equivalent, and to use one or the other would be an obvious matter of design choice.

7. Claims 11 and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Ryser et al (US 4,143,574).

Ryser et al discloses the invention substantially as claimed except that Ryser et al lacks an explicit description or drawing for the holders having different aperture sizes or shapes. However, Ryser et al does teach that the binders are interchangeable - note e.g. c. 2, ll. 44-54 - which suggests to the ordinary artisan that holders having different aperture sizes and shapes are obvious variant holders interchangeable in the overall stamping device. Thus, it would have been obvious to the ordinary artisan at the time of the instant invention to provide the invention of Ryser et al with the holders with a different sized aperture and shape in order to facilitate stamping of various sized and shaped products, since it has been held such a modification would have involved a mere change in the size and shape of a component. A change in size and shape is generally recognized as being within the level of ordinary skill in the art, especially since such a change does not render unexpected or unobvious results. *In re Rose*, 105 USPQ 237 (CCPA 1955).

Allowable Subject Matter

8. Claim 19 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Response to Arguments

9. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-25 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

10. Smith et al, Choy, Bergman et al, Mauger and Ryan are cited as additional pertinent art.
11. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Charles Goodman whose telephone number is (571) 272-4508. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday between 7:30 AM to 6:00 PM EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Allan Shoap, can be reached on (571) 272-4514. In lieu of mailing, it is encouraged that all formal responses be faxed to **(571) 273-8300**.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at (866) 217-9197 (toll-free).


Charles Goodman
Primary Examiner
AU 3724

cg 
February 6, 2006

CHARLES GOODMAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER